

## United States Senate

November 14, 2019

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

**Re: City of Tucson and City of South Tucson/Federal Transit Administration Transit-Oriented Development**

Dear Secretary Chao,

I write in support of the application submitted by the Cities of Tucson and South Tucson for \$2,000,000 in funds under the Federal Transit Administration Pilot Program for Transit-Oriented Development (TOD). This proposal represents a strong partnership between local and regional governments with the goal of strengthening policies that support economic development and access to jobs along a popular transit corridor.

This pilot program, known as Optimizing Connectivity and Mobility through Equitable Transit Oriented Development, will plan for the design of a Bus Rapid Transit corridor that integrates business, affordable housing, and increased access for riders, pedestrians and cyclists. These carefully planned mixed-use developments are the key to healthy cities and represent the core goals of FTA's stated program guidelines for TOD.

As part of this proposal, these resources would allow Tucson to identify improvements in designated Opportunity Zones along the north-south route, leveraging connectivity between the City's highly successful Sun Link Streetcar project and the Tucson International Airport on the south end. I support these efforts to integrate multimodal transit and advance planning efforts through community partnerships. Other public support for this project includes the Pima Association of Governments.

I appreciate your review of this innovative project and ask that you give this request full and fair consideration.

Sincerely,



Martha McSally  
United States Senator